

SENATOR RASMUSSEN: ...and a clear understanding of what will happen if either the state or the welfare recipient does not comply with that written agreement. It is not just a matter if the recipient doesn't it, it's also if the state does not either and we have indicated in the main part of the bill that the state is responsible for such support services as transportation, as child care, as health care and those kinds of things, but they will also have a responsibility to do what they can in terms of their realms of resources to make it possible for children to attend school. If transportation is the issue, then that will be something that the state will need to work on in conjunction with the schools. If it is a matter of lack of adequate nutrition, then the state does have responsibility for existing programs to ensure that that happens. So the discussion is not just one sided. If your kid doesn't show up for school...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Time.

SENATOR RASMUSSEN: ...therefore, we're going to punish you. It is a two-way street between the state and the welfare families.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Rasmussen. Senator Jones wishes to announce that the following guest is visiting the Legislature, Allison Johnson from Ainsworth, Nebraska on the 4-H Action Team is here under the north balcony. Allison, will you please stand up. Thank you. Senator Bohlke, your light is next, followed by Senator Wesely, Byars, Janssen, Vrtiska, Crosby, Fisher and Chambers.

SENATOR BOHLKE: Thank you, Madam President, members, that sounds about the list of everyone that is here on the floor who are going to speak on this and I rise to point out something that I think we'll probably be discussing a great deal the entire morning. First, to say that I oppose the Schimek amendment and I do because what has been said, the student discipline bill was my priority bill and so I do not think that we are pointing people out who need assistance any differently than what we have a general expectation. But the real difference here is one word that I think is important that is new with the new welfare system and that word is a contract. And what we're asking people to do now is to come in and be a part of a contract. When you sign a contract you say here's what the one side, party, is willing to do, here's what is expected of the other party. What we're saying is we recognize